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BYEMAN-TALENT-KEYHOLE-COMINT

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BYE-35565-65

8 March 1965

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director, NPIC

SUBJECT : Operations Staff Monthly Report - 1-27 February 1965

1. General

a. A revised statement of missions and functions for the Operations Staff was submitted to the Management Information Branch for coordination following which it was approved and issued by the Executive Director. Considerable effort was devoted during the month to the preparation of job descriptions for every member of the staff for use by the Management Information Branch in its survey of the Operations Staff.

b. A meeting was held with representatives of PAG, P&DS and TID to discuss the COMOR and USIB actions leading up to the current study of resolutions from the intelligence viewpoint. Several interesting questions became readily apparent; e.g., is the resolution required to identify objects a certain size on the ground the same as the size of the objects or is there a difference between what the collection system must yield and the actual size of the object--and what is the resolution of objects which must be measured with prescribed degrees of accuracy? A meeting was held later with the Chairman of the COMOR Photo Working Group. The EEI developed by COMOR were submitted to PAG and TID for analysis and compilation of the required resolution data.

50X1 c. [redacted] from the Office of the Inspector General interviewed Operations Staff personnel regarding [redacted] 50X1  
50X1 [redacted]. Following this he was taken to PAG to view the scan operations (MCI type) on the Richardson viewer and detailed searches conducted in depth. A final report was received by the Office of the Director which was reviewed and comments submitted to the Executive Director. As a result an agreed plan for searching mission tracks for OSA before missions are launched was devised. This plan was coordinated with PAG and has been implemented.

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d. Plans and procedures for a new cable link with [REDACTED] to handle non-system traffic were finalized. Arrangements were made to acquire special routing indicators for the use by CIA/PID to facilitate the separation of their traffic from normal NPIC traffic. Special instructions in the use of this link and sample cable formats were provided to CIA/PID. Cables were sent to all affected field stations establishing operating procedures. Arrangements were also made with Cable Secretariat for the dissemination of info copies through CIA per prescribed distribution schedules and standing requirements. (See para 1d for January 1965 Monthly Report for Background Information.)

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f. Special film input projections were prepared for the Assistant for Administration for the period 1 January-30 June 1965. These were coordinated with OSA, NRO and JRC/JCS. These figures were for use in revised management studies on PAG operations and for the preparation of briefing boards for use with the IG.

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g. At the request of [REDACTED] statistics were pulled together for a number of briefing boards to be prepared per [REDACTED] specifications. These are for use in briefing the DOD IG.

h. A memorandum was issued to all Center components listing all DOD flown reconnaissance programs and the classification of the reports produced therefrom.

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j. During the month more effort was expended in commenting on a number of revisions to the OPIC paper. A processing standards paper was reviewed and coordinated with PSD and TID.

k. Much progress has been made in the development of an NPIC Regulation and Handbook procedures dealing with the handling of cables.

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m. A meeting was held with representatives of TID, CSD and IPD regarding the handling of the KH-7 "gravy" program. The results from this computer program are cabled to Washington from [redacted] and lists all COMOR targets supposedly fired at by the camera and therefore supposedly reflects those targets covered. It was agreed that the Operations Staff should get a corrected version of this computer run for Mission 4015 on the data link and that CSD would then compare its manual method of target selection with the proposed method to determine if it is feasible to save many manhours of effort in CSD and also reduce the readout effort in PAG in that fewer COMOR targets would have to be checked.

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n. A paper was prepared for the Director, NPIC dealing with the currently available photographic coverage of Communist China covering the period 29 March 1963 thru 22 January 1965. It provided listings of aircraft missions and dates thereof indicating the type of report produced and by whom. A similar tabulation was enclosed covering KEYHOLE photography.

o. A memorandum for the record was prepared and disseminated to all interested Center components outlining the agreed revised procedures for handling [redacted] film.

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q. The following tours and briefings were either conducted or participated in by Operations Staff personnel:

- (1) Lt. Lloyd Warner (USN) from CINCLANTF (Tour)
- (2) Major General Lenord and Lt. Col. Manley from CG, Ft. Holabird, Md. (Briefing and Tour)

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r. Arrangements were made for Center personnel to attend a briefing by Colonels Sleeper and Henry and Staff from AFSC on their proposed collection system intended to acquire photography with 6"-3" ground resolutions. A tour of the Center will be scheduled in the near future and it is expected that General Schriver might visit NPIC at that time.

s. Because of the workload involved in processing all of the cable traffic resulting from KEYHOLE missions and the need to activate the data link on short notice, the Communications facility in the future will operate 24 hours a day from the time of launch to the completion of the mission readout.

## 2. Operations Support Branch

a. During the report period, 29 liaison visits were made to the various collection agencies in connection with operational activities of concern to NPIC. Advance information of planned events, the results of successful operations and the movement of mission "take" were reported promptly to Center components.

b. Analysis of film input data as maintained by the branch shows a decrease of 70,000 feet (28%) in receipts in February compared to January. This is attributed to a number of factors including the consideration that no KH missions were flown in January and the reduced coverage requirements for Cuba. Then too January was a 5-week month vs 4 weeks for February. Even so, the total footage figure of 250,000 remained approximately equal to the monthly average of 260,000 feet during the past year. Conversely the number of missions flown rose to 129, the highest since the Cuban crisis of 1962. The increase is related in this instance to the crisis in Southeast Asia. See Annex A for details.

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c. The Branch processed 826 cables during the month, of which 638 were incoming and 188 outgoing messages. Peak receipts for a single day were 81 IN cables and 25 OUTs. The daily average dropped from a total of 50/day to 43. In addition, 1788 cables received by courier from the CIA Cable Secretariat were reviewed and routed to the appropriate offices. This was the highest number ever.

d. Outgoing messages, including service types, dispatched by the Commo Center numbered 210 and required 360 sectional transmissions. Incoming messages totalled 840 and 1,131 transmissions. The latter figures are well below the monthly average and reversed a trend of steadily rising traffic. The Commo Center also devoted 28 manhours to the operation of the Data Link System.

e. Further research was performed in behalf of DIA [redacted] to develop and provide additional statistics on aircraft missions from 1956 through 1964 by number of missions and general area of coverage by year.

f. A project was undertaken and completed for DDS&T to detail the square nautical mile coverage accomplished by the "J" program since its inception approximately 18 months ago.

g. The branch with the assistance of Center components also undertook to satisfy a number of support requirements for OSA involving (a) photo reductions in the form of color prints illustrating range and base considerations for "O" operations planning, [redacted]

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[redacted] In addition, for NRO, the branch arranged the photo reduction and printing of 100 copies of an "Aerospace Planning Chart" which layed out orbital characteristics to be expected for satellite missions of varying duration.

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h. As a follow-up to considerations arising from [redacted] the Operations Support Branch has developed and now maintains special folder files for [redacted] to reflect all actions, informal or otherwise, in which NPIC is involved. Included are an overlay of any track furnished by OSA for search, search request messages, NPIC replies thereto, a list of personnel witting of pre-flight plans, a summary of information acquired by liaison visits and miscellaneous before and after messages pertaining to each mission.

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i. In relation to the scheduled visit of the IG team from headquarters, information was developed and illustrated on briefing boards, prepared by the branch, to show the scope of activities in which engaged. Of particular interest was the picture which emerged in a graphic portrayal on cable traffic. It was noted that the monthly average of outgoing cables has remained relatively constant during the past year whereas on incoming cables, over which NPIC has no control, the average has risen steadily and is now 300% greater than a year earlier.

3. Requirements Branch

a. The branch processed 83 direct national PI requirements and established 264 other projects during the month. Total requirements/projects established decreased about 70% from last month. A large percentage is due to the fact that last month P&DS established a large number of projects as this was the first month this Staff was included in the MIS. There also was a decided drop in the number of CIA direct departmental PI projects established. (See Annex B for details.)

b. Weekly dispatches were prepared transmitting [ ] the PI status report and copies of selected national requirements to assist in avoiding duplication of effort.

c. Annex C is a comparison of the status of projects for the past 3 months.

[ ]  
Assistant for Operations, NPIC

Attachments:

Annexes A, B & C

Distribution:

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